

TWO LIVES LOST IN FIRE WHICH DESTROYED THE LANGDON HOUSE

Also McLeod House and Two Barns Destroyed, With All Their Contents—The 48 Boarders in the Langdon House Lose All Their Personal Effects—Several Persons Injured.

Fire Started in Room of One of the Victims—Occupants of Boarding House Forced to Jump For Their Lives, as Fire Spread Very Rapidly....Property Loss is in Neighborhood of \$20,000.

Graniteville, May 25.—Two lives were lost, several persons were injured and more than two score of lives were endangered by a fire which destroyed the Langdon boarding house, the house occupied by John G. McLeod and two barns at this place early today. The property loss will reach \$18,000.

The dead are:
Odessa Morrisette, aged 15.
Peter Martin, aged 72.

The injured are:
Annie Nicholson, who jumped from the third story window and was severely hurt.
Holand Allen, badly burned about the face and hands.

C. C. McCaffrey, burned on the head.
Others were more or less severely burned. Of the two who were burned to death only the charred remains of the girl have been discovered, and it is probable that the man's body was burned to ashes.

The fire was a perfect holocaust, and the wonder is that more lives were not lost, as the houses burned like tinder, cutting off the avenues of escape so rapidly that the inmates of the boarding house were compelled to jump for their lives, clad only in their night clothing. So fierce was the fire that within a half hour after the fire was discovered the Langdon boarding house, the largest on the hill, was nothing but a mass of fiery ruins.

The fire was first discovered on the third floor in the room of the unfortunate man who lost his life in the flames. The occupant of the next room, Edward Donahue, was awakened by the suffocating smoke and the flames which burst into his room, at about 3 o'clock. Without waiting to put on his clothes, Donahue rushed out to arouse the 47 other occupants of the house.

Immediately there was a scene of the greatest confusion. One after another as the people were aroused they made a rush for means of escape. The prospect of saving any property was simply out of the question, and those who were arousing the females realized that they would do well if they succeeded in getting out of all of the people. The first floor was easily cleared as the fire was confined at first to the upper floors.

There, however, the rescue was attended with the greatest difficulty. Finally all the people were gotten out with the exception of two table girls who roomed together on the third floor just across the building from where the fire started.

The girls were Miss Morrisette, the one who lost her life, and Miss Annie Nicholson. Both rushed to the window of their room and then began frantically calling to the people below to get ladders, but there was none which was long enough to reach to the third story.

Meanwhile frantic efforts were being made to get at the imprisoned girls from the stairway. Among those who attempted to reach the girls from this way was the father of the Nicholson girl, Charles Nicholson, who with Frank Sweeney, got as far as the first floor but was forced back by the rush of the flames which made further progress impossible.

As the flames approached nearer the two girls, a blanket was brought and the girls were told to jump. Miss Nicholson climbed out on the window sill, closely followed by her companion. The former jumped and struck the blanket but owing to the fact that the blanket was not held securely her fall was not broken much. She struck the ground heavily and may be injured internally.

The Morrisette girl gave a look at the distance and fell back swooning onto the bed in the room. A few charred bones were all that was found of her body, it having been entirely impossible to rescue the girl from the veritable furnace.

Short work was made of these by the fire fiend. The heat became intense and those who were attempting to stem the unequal tide of fire with two small streams from the Boutwell supply were forced to fall back before the advance of the flames. The depot, which is situated to the west of the Langdon house, was in danger of burning and for a time it was thought that this building would go with the others. It, however, escaped with a severe scorching.

A big crowd of spectators had assembled by this time and those who had been forced from their homes with nothing but the night clothing which they wore on their backs were kindly cared for by neighbors, and the women who had been fortunate enough to get out of the burning buildings were also given shelter for the night.

As there were no buildings within reach of the flames the fire soon subsided, but the volunteer fire fighters kept the two streams of water playing on the ruins. At 9 o'clock this forenoon the embers were still burning, although there was nothing left of the four buildings, every stick of timber being down.

As soon as possible after the flames had been subdued enough to allow of the anxious searchers began to look for the remains of those who lost their lives. Early this forenoon the remains of Miss Morrisette were uncovered in the cellar of the building just underneath the room in which she was last seen. The few charred bones were resting on the springs of the bed on which she had fallen in a swoon. The remains were carefully removed and placed in a small wooden box preparatory to being taken to the undertakers.

Then the search for the remains of the old gentleman was started, again, but it is probable that nothing will be recovered as the fire was the hottest in the room where he slept and where the fire started.

Miss Nicholson, the young lady who escaped death by jumping from the third story window, was placed under the care of Dr. G. L. T. Hayes who on examination thought that there were no bones broken. She was badly bruised, by the long fall to the ground and it may be also that she received internal injuries. The men who were burned in getting out and in assisting the others to get out had their injuries dressed and will experience no great trouble.

The cause of the fire is a mystery, and no one is able to account for it. The flames started in the room of Peter Martin, but further than that, it is impossible to lay the cause. John Maiden, the proprietor of the boarding house, stated this morning that Mr. Martin was in bed at 9 o'clock and that the lamp which he had in his room was out at that time. The fire may have caught after Mr. Martin's attempt to relight the lamp, but that is merely conjecture. Mr. Martin was well respected by those who knew him. He has no relatives in this vicinity, but he has some near Montreal. The old gentleman was planning to go to Montreal next week to visit his relatives. He was employed about J. M. Boutwell's barn.

It was stated that Mr. Martin had been drinking yesterday but the report is unconfirmed. Miss Morrisette leaves several relatives, a father, two sisters and two brothers, all of whom reside in or near Graniteville.

All the buildings destroyed were the property of ex-Mayor James M. Boutwell of Montpelier, who stated that his loss will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000. This with the loss of Mr. Maiden and the boarders, who lost practically everything, will bring the total loss up to \$18,000.

Mr. Boutwell was insured for \$7,500 in the agency of John W. Dillon of Barre. Mr. Maiden places his loss at \$1,500 with insurance of \$1,000 with G. H. Page. Mr. McLeod was able with the assistance of willing helpers to remove all his furniture with the exception of the carpets.

The Langdon boarding house was by far the largest house in Graniteville and about fifty people are made homeless by its burning. The building was erected fourteen years ago, and during the past eight years it has been occupied by John Maiden who boarded chiefly the employees of Boutwell's quarry. It was of wood and was three stories high, containing 36 rooms. The McLeod house was practically new, costing \$8,000. In the barns burned were four horses, three the property of Mr. Boutwell and the other belonging to Mr. McLeod. These were saved.

Being asked today whether he should rebuild Mr. Boutwell stated that he probably would, as there was an imperative demand for houses in Graniteville and places must be secured for those who are made homeless. They are being temporarily accommodated at the Shepard boarding house and in private families. He will also rebuild a house for his foreman, McLeod.

The women who narrowly escaped being burned were Ina Davidson, Sarah Smith, Annie Nicholson and Rosa Olson.

MILLINERY STOCK DAMAGED.

Chimney on Fire in W. F. Shepard House Causes Quite a Loss.

The fire department was called to Prospect street at 8 o'clock this morning on an alarm from box 23, for a chimney fire in the residence of W. F. Shepard. Smoke from the chimney streamed into the millinery room on the second floor and to all appearances the house was on fire, and a stream was turned on the room before word could be communicated to the firemen there was no danger. Considerable damage was done to the millinery stock by smoke and water.

While the crowd was watching this agonizing scene on the west side of the house the flames had run through the building and communicated to the house a few feet away occupied by John G. McLeod. Soon this was burning fiercely and the flames proceeded to eat up two barns which were connected with this house.

MANY SERIOUS ACCIDENTS.

Causes Authorities to Forbid Continuance of Automobile Race.

Paris, May 24.—In view of the number of accidents, some fatal, in the first stage of the Paris-Madrid auto race, from Versailles to Bordeaux, Premier Combes has forbidden the continuance of the contest on French territory. The second stage of the race, which was to have been continued Tuesday, included a run over French territory from Bordeaux to the Spanish frontier. Premier Combes' action will probably lead to the race being abandoned. It is reported that the Spanish government has also forbidden continuance of the race on Spanish territory.

The first stage in the Paris-Madrid automobile race from Versailles to Bordeaux, 345 miles, finished at noon today, when Louis Renault dashed at a furious rate into Bordeaux, having made a record run of eight hours and 27 minutes. An hour later M. Gabriel arrived with a still better record of eight hours and seven minutes. It is estimated from the time made that these automobiles covered 62 miles an hour on the road outside the cities.

These victories, however, were clouded by a series of accidents, having in one case at least a fatal result. At least two cars were wrecked and Marcel Renault, the winner of the Paris-Vienna race last year, Lorraine Barrows, a very well known automobilist and Renault's chauffeur, were seriously injured. It is thought that Renault, while Barrows' chauffeur was killed. Moreover, an unconfirmed report says a serious accident occurred near Angoulême, in which the two occupants of an automobile, the owner of which is not yet known were seriously injured and two spectators were killed.

DAMAGE BY THE COLD AND FROST

Serious Setback Given to Early Vegetation—Tender Beans Were Marked.

If an estimate could be given today of the damage that was done by the cold and frost Sunday morning and last night, the figures would doubtless be thought, surprisingly large. But the freeze of yesterday morning caused wide havoc among the tender vegetables and plants in and about Barre. The total loss hereabouts would, without any doubt, amount to thousands of dollars.

Garden after garden around town was flat yesterday morning, the plants being in whole or in part killed by the heavy frost of the early morning. The tender beans were particular marks for the cold, and peas, potatoes, etc., were cut down by the frost. All these represent not only some considerable expense to start with, but have of course meant time and labor spent in attention.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

Three Men Hurt in Pawlet Quarries, One Fatally.

Bennington, May 23.—Peter Miller sustained fatal injuries in Norton Bros. slate quarry near Pawlet yesterday afternoon. He was putting a stone on a car when it tipped and buried him into the pit, which is 200 feet deep. When picked up he was alive but unconscious. His skull was fractured and many bones in his body were crushed. He leaves a wife and one child. John E. Williams was also injured in the same accident.

In another quarry John H. Owens was badly injured, some stones began falling and one striking him on the head. In attempting to escape his feet became entangled in a rope which prevented his getting away. He was badly cut and bruised about the head and shoulders before he could be taken out and his condition is critical.

SHOT BY HER BROTHER.

Five-Year-Old Waltham Girl Killed by Accidental Discharge of Revolver.

Vergennes, May 23.—A five-year-old daughter of Albert Hiera, a Waltham farmer, was accidentally shot and killed by her 8-year-old brother at their home today. The boy had been sent to the house by his father to get a 44-calibre revolver. The weapon was in the pocket of a pair of trousers, which hung in one of the sleeping rooms, and in withdrawing it the hammer caught and was discharged. The ball lodged in the head of the little girl, who was asleep on a bed in the room, killing her instantly.

SALT CELLAR AS A WEAPON.

Rutland Man Refused Drink Assaulted Bartender.

Rutland, May 23.—Frank Welch, of this city, was refused a drink at the bar of Hotel Harvard last night because apparently he had had enough. Welch became enraged and threw a salt cellar at the bartender, Samuel Murray, with great force, cutting an ugly gash in Murray's head. A warrant was issued for Welch, but he has not yet been found.

24 Days of Rain.

Guthrie, Ok., May 24.—Early today this vicinity was visited by another deluge making the 24th consecutive day of rain.

CORPORATIONS ARE AT WAR.

Details of Western Union Penn. R.R. Fight.

MESSAGES NOT DELAYED.

President of the Telegraph Company Says Cutting of Poles Has Not Injured It.

New York, May 25.—The Western Union Telegraph company characterizes as high handed the action of the Pennsylvania Railroad company in cutting down the poles and wires of the former and will appeal to the United States supreme court. President Clowry of the Western Union said:

"Not a minute's delay was caused, and we are not refusing messages to any point. We will take messages and guarantee their delivery. The Western Union Telegraph company has contracts with every other railway of any importance in this country except the Pennsylvania. In addition to this we have important highways all covered.

No Delay in Delivering Messages. "There is not a town of any importance along the lines where the cutting was done that has not our wires leading in from highway trunk lines. We can reach any town we have been reaching, and we won't refuse to take a message or have any delay in delivering it.

"Every one of the lines cut down by the Pennsylvania railroad people is paralleled by a highway line. As a matter of fact, the destroyed lines were already practically dead wires."

THE PENNSYLVANIA'S SIDE.

Superintendent Tells Why Poles and Wires Were Cut Down.

Philadelphia, May 25.—Charles M. Schaffer, superintendent of telegraph of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, in speaking of the removal of the Western Union wires and poles from the Pennsylvania lines said: "The Western Union Telegraph company under its contract with the Pennsylvania Railroad company bound itself upon six months after the termination of its contract to remove its poles and wires from the property of the railroad company, and upon failure to do so the contract provided that the Pennsylvania Railroad company had the right to remove the poles and wires at the expense of the telegraph company.

"The Pennsylvania Railroad company in order to save the telegraph company the expense and loss incident to the removal of the poles and wires offered to purchase the lines at a full valuation, but the Western Union Telegraph company evidently preferred to allow the Pennsylvania Railroad company to tear them down and remove them at its expense.

"The Pennsylvania Railroad company, having entered into a contract with the Postal Telegraph company to provide them with facilities on its lines, was compelled to remove the poles and wires of the Western Union Telegraph company in order to put themselves in a position to carry out their agreement with the Postal Telegraph company, as the right of way occupied by the Western Union Telegraph company was necessary for that purpose."

LEAGUE BASE BALL.

Boston Americans Shut Out Chicago 7 to 0 Yesterday.

American league Sunday games: At Chicago, Boston 7, Chicago 0. At St. Louis, New York 4, St. Louis 1. At Grand Rapids, Detroit 5, Washington 4. Saturday's American League scores: At Chicago, Boston 4, Chicago 1. At Cleveland, Philadelphia 4, Cleveland 2. At Detroit, Detroit 4, Washington 3. At St. Louis, New York 3, St. Louis 1.

American League Standing. Won. Lost. Pct. Won. Lost. Pct. Chicago 16 12 .571 Boston 15 14 .517 Pittsburgh 16 12 .571 St. Louis 12 13 .480 Philadelphia 16 12 .571 New York 13 15 .464 Cleveland 13 12 .520 Washington 9 10 .473

Saturday's National League scores: At Boston, Boston 8, Cincinnati 2. At New York, St. Louis 4, New York 3. (10 innings.) At Brooklyn, Brooklyn 5, Pittsburgh 4. At Philadelphia, Chicago 14, Philadelphia 1.

National League Standing. Won. Lost. Pct. Won. Lost. Pct. Chicago 23 9 .719 Brooklyn 16 10 .461 New York 20 9 .690 Cincinnati 15 17 .464 Pittsburgh 20 14 .588 Philadelphia 9 22 .290 Boston 14 20 .410 St. Louis 9 24 .273

Saturday's College Scores. At Cambridge, Princeton 6, Harvard 5. At Providence, Brown 7, Yale 0. At New Haven, Harvard freshmen 10, Yale freshmen 0.

At Exeter, Tufts 7, Exeter 2. At Hanover, Dartmouth 7, Williams 3. At Hartford, Wesleyan 11, Trinity 7. At Lewiston, Bates 3, University of Maine 1.

At Ithaca, Michigan 9, Cornell 8. At West Point, Columbia 11, West Point 0.

SERMON TO CLAN GORDON O. S. C.

Delivered by Rev. T. H. Mitchell on Occasion of Society's Nineteenth Anniversary.

Rev. T. H. Mitchell, pastor of the Presbyterian church, addressed the members of Clan Gordon, No. 12, O. S. C., at his church yesterday morning, the sermon being in commemoration of the 19th anniversary of the founding of the local clan. Nearly 150 clansmen attended and friends of the clan and the regular congregation completely filled the church.

Rev. Mr. Mitchell preached a powerful sermon which was followed closely. He took his text from James 1, 27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world." The subject of the sermon was "What is Religion?" The speaker said in part, after extending a hearty welcome to the members of Clan Gordon, "When I was casting about last week for a topic from which to speak to you today this old text flashed into my mind and I could not get rid of it. It is a passage of scripture that all love and I do not expect to say anything which you do not all know, but simply restate old truths.

What is religion? The love of God in the soul of man, has been given as a definition. Religion pure and undefiled has three manifestations.

1. Purity, personal purity before the world, shutting out the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of the world, the latter meaning position.

2. Charity or unselfishness. The path of progress is the path of altruism. What means this idea of philanthropy? It means the beginning of the victory of altruism.

Every clansman joins the clan, I suppose, from a motive of self interest, but how soon is he drawn to the interests of others. How often has this order assisted those who are in need? How beautiful! Many times I have been in the homes of clansmen and seen the members sitting up with a brother, simply through love. And in the seven years of my ministry I have seen the widows of clansmen assisted. Neighboring charity is one of the sublime characteristics of Clan Gordon is showing it every day.

3. Reverence to God. The right attitude of the scientist and the religious man is that of reverence, but we are exceedingly irreverent. This is not a reverent age.

Finally let it be engraven as your motto, purity, charity and reverence.

\$2,000,000 NEEDED.

The Cost of a Railroad from Montpelier to Rutland.

Rutland, May 23.—The matter of building the proposed railroad from this city to Montpelier and Barre, which was extensively agitated several months ago, has come to a dead stop as far as Rutland is concerned, although it is claimed that there is some activity at the other end of the line.

The Hon. Joseph A. DeBoer of Montpelier, who is at the head of the movement, has been in this city this week on business connected with the project, and he states that the Montpelier committee which has the matter in charge is still hard at work trying to put the plan into operation in some manner. Conferences have been held with officials of the Delaware & Hudson railroad and with the capitalists at New York with whom Leroy W. Baldwin, formerly of Rutland, is associated, but as yet neither of these parties has signified any eagerness to go ahead with the building of the road, although there is still some hope of one of them taking it up.

There is little prospect of the road being built in the near future unless assistance is had from out of the state, as it is now recognized as impossible to raise the requisite amount of money among the cities and towns which would be directly benefited by the line.

It is calculated that \$2,000,000 would be required to build a steam road over the route which has been surveyed from this city to Montpelier and Barre.

WILL BE IN BARRE.

State Convention of Y. P. S. C. E. Union To Be Held Here in October.

President E. G. Osmond of the Vermont Christian Endeavor Union announces the state convention to be held in Barre this year early in October. Miss Graves of St. Johnsbury, the state secretary, has been chosen to represent the state union at the national convention to be held at Denver July 9 to 13.

Mrs. O'Shea Fined \$300.

Rutland, May 24.—Mrs. Ellen O'Shea, who left the state several weeks ago while her case was pending in city court and was rearrested Friday night, was fined \$300 and costs yesterday. She was arraigned on the charge of selling liquor without a license. She pleaded not guilty but after several witnesses had been examined was found guilty and fined. She appealed the case to county court. Bail was fixed at \$400, which she furnished. H. E. Seward going her bond.

Card of Thanks.

We wish to thank those friends and neighbors who were kind enough to bring us a nice cow to fill the place of the one we lost. Special thanks to Mr. Harry Brady who presented the cow and must have made quite an effort to get her.

Eugene Armstrong, Helen Armstrong.

Card of Thanks.

I wish to thank the many friends for their kindness to me in my bereavement.

Mrs. Angus Nicholson.

MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Services Held in Opera House.

SERMON BY REV. KINZIE

Services Were Well Attended and Were Very Impressive.

Public memorial Sunday services were held Sunday afternoon at three o'clock in the city hall. Rev. W. A. Kinzie, pastor of the Baptist church, delivered the memorial sermon before the R. B. Crandall Post, G. A. R., Company E and the ladies of Col. Meade Circle, G. A. R., who attended in bodies and occupied seats at the front of the hall. Of the Crandall post there were twenty-one present. They were escorted by Company E from the armory to the hall. Besides the veterans and the ladies' corps there was a large congregation, the remaining seats being well filled and the services were listened to with the closest attention.

The Congregational church choir, consisting of David Wylie, Mrs. B. W. Braley, Miss Maude E. Harris and George Ingalls, opened the services by a beautiful rendering of Dudley Buck's Venite, followed by the invocation by Rev. J. A. Sherburn, responsive reading led by Rev. R. F. Lowe, scripture reading by Rev. J. W. Watt, prayer by Rev. F. A. Poole, singing, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, by the choir and audience and the sermon by Rev. W. A. Kinzie. Mr. Kinzie took for his text Kings 2, thirteenth chapter, thirty first verse, "When the dead man was let down and he touched the bones of Elisha he arose and stood up."

He said in part: The good deeds which the prophet Elisha performed among his people and the sacrifices which he underwent for their good lived after him and inspired the next generation of people as the spirit of the revolution inspired you in '61 and the spirit of '01 aroused your sons to action in the late war with Spain. Your numbers are fast growing small but your deeds will be remembered and shed some influence on the world.

There are some great problems confronting this country today which call for the best that there is in American citizens to solve. The problem of educating the negroes in our southern states whom you sacrificed so much to free, of wiping out polio in the west, of making good American citizens of the emigrants which are pouring into our states, and the liquor traffic which is a curse to our land. All these things can only be solved and overcome by true and noble citizens whose influence comes through Jesus Christ.

DEATH OF J. M. WARD.

Well Known South Barre Resident Died This Afternoon.

James M. Ward of South Barre, one of the long time residents of the town, died this afternoon after a long sickness. Mr. Ward was much respected by all who knew him and was one of the most prominent citizens of the town.

He leaves a wife and five children, Mrs. Harry Willey, Mrs. Grant Lane, Edward, William and George Ward. Mr. Ward was for many years station agent at South Barre.

DEATH OF MRS. WILLEY.

Much Esteemed Barre Woman Died Saturday Afternoon.

Mrs. Jesse Willey died at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon after a short illness. She leaves two sisters and a brother, Irvin Potter, who is attending college at Canton, N. Y., a husband and two young children, the youngest being only eleven days old. The funeral will be held from the house Wednesday afternoon, Rev. Effie K. M. Jones officiating.

ROBERT UTTON DEAD.

Resident of Barre Town Died Last Evening.

Robert Upton died at his home opposite P. O. Wheaton's in Barre town last evening, aged 67 years, 10 months and 11 days. He leaves a wife and six children, two boys and four girls. Mr. Upton was born in England.

The funeral will be held at the house Wednesday at 10 a. m. Interment at Worcester Corner.

Funeral of Angus Nicholson.

The funeral of Angus Nicholson was held yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from his late home on Cliff street, Rev. T. H. Mitchell officiating. The interment was in Hope cemetery.

There was a large attendance of friends and sympathizing neighbors. Mrs. Nicholson was able to sit up during the services, and at their close the eighteen months old daughter was christened Margaret and the week old baby was christened Angus.

Death of Albert Gouldsbury.

Albert Gouldsbury died at 3 o'clock this morning at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gouldsbury of Beckley street. He had been sick for a long time with consumption and had just recently returned from Pasadena, Cal.